

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 – 15 were pending at the time of the issuance of the outstanding Office Action. By this amendment, claims 4 – 6 and 9 – 10 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein. Claims 1, 7, 8, and 11 – 15 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

In the Office Action of 14 February 2007, the Examiner objected to the specification because the abstract contains the word “comprised.” Additionally, the claims 1, 7 – 8 and 11 – 15 were objected to because of informalities present in those claims. The Examiner also indicated that the application is in condition for allowance pending correction of the above-mentioned objections to the specification and claims and cancellation of the non-elected claims. In response to the Office Action, non-elected claims 4 – 6, 9 and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and subject to the Applicants’ right to file a divisional application directed thereto. Amendments have been made also to claims 1, 7, 8, and 11 – 15 in accordance with the Examiner’s objections to those claims and his suggestions for correction thereof. The abstract has also been amended to eliminate use of the word “comprising” and to introduce minor grammatical changes in the abstract.

In light of these amendments to the specification and claims, the application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. The outstanding Office Action was delivered electronically, with notification on 14 February 2007. The Examiner set a shortened statutory period for reply of two months from the notification date. Therefore, no extension of time or accompanying fee is believed to be due in making this response. However, in the event that a fee for the filing of this response is insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized

to charge any fee deficiency or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0450.

Respectfully submitted,

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